

KMZ Rosenman
KATTEN MUCHIN ZAVIS ROSENMAN

575 Madison Ave.
New York, NY 10022
212.940.8800 office (212) 940-8776 fax

Facsimile

To 1. USPTO, PCT Legal Office	Fax Number (571)273-0459	Phone Number
Date 3/15/2005	Client/Matter Number 053735-87566	
From Linda S. Chan	Attorney Number 20093	
Phone 212.940.8712	Fax 212.894.5712	

Total number of pages, including cover letter: 23
If you do not receive all of the pages, please call: 212.940.8800

Comments

Inventor : Hartmut Schön
Title : Apparatus for the Provision of a Block Flange of a Manhole Arperture of the Like, in Particular for Fluidized Bad Reactors
Serial No. : PCT/EP99/08001
Confirmation No. : 8924
Filed : October 27, 1999

RECEIVED
15 MAR 2005
Legal Staff
International Division

For Messenger Department Use Only

Your fax has been sent. Attached is your original.

Date	Time
Signature	

Important

This facsimile transmission contains information intended for the exclusive use of the individual or entity to whom it is addressed and may contain information that is proprietary, privileged, confidential and/or exempt from disclosure under applicable law.

If you are not the intended recipient (or an employee or agent responsible for delivering this facsimile transmission to the intended recipient), you are hereby notified that any copying, disclosure or distribution of this information may be subject to legal restriction or sanction. Please notify the sender by telephone to arrange for the return or destruction of the information and all copies.

Chicago

New York

Los Angeles

Washington, DC

Charlotte

Palo Alto

www.kmzr.com

A Law Partnership including Professional Corporations

Serial No.: PCT/EP99/08001

Page 1 of 2

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor : Hartmut Schön

**Title : Apparatus for the Provision of a Block Flange of a Manhole
Arperture of the Like, in Particular for Fluidized Bad Reactors**

Serial No. : PCT/EP99/08001

Confirmation No. : 8924

Filed : October 27, 1999

March 15, 2005

By Facsimile: (571)273-0459

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor : **Hartmut Schön**
Title : **Apparatus for the Provision of a Block Flange of a Manhole
Aperture of the Like, in Particular for Fluidized Bed Reactors**
Serial No. : **PCT/EP99/08001**
Confirmation No. : **8924**
Filed : **October 27, 1999**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the
United States Postal Service as Express Mail, postage prepaid, in an
envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450,
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 pursuant to 37 CFR 1.10 on the date
shown below as

Express Mail Receipt No. EV 332246025 US

Name: Ralisa Sopha

Signature: R. Subhaw

Date: October 27, 2004

October 27, 2004

Mail Stop: PCT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**Petition Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.137(b) to Revive PCT Application for
Filing of Continuation Application**

To the Commissioner for Patents:

The above-referenced PCT application was filed on October 27, 1999 claiming priority to German application number 198 51 423.9 filed on November 7, 1998. The National Phase application was due to be filed by May 7, 2001. Applicant filed a continuation application on May 4, 2001 claiming priority to the current PCT application (Application Serial No. 09/849,678. However, the sheet of claims was unintentionally omitted from the filed continuation application. Thus, Applicant hereby respectfully petitions the commissioner to revive the current application for entry of the enclosed complete continuation application.

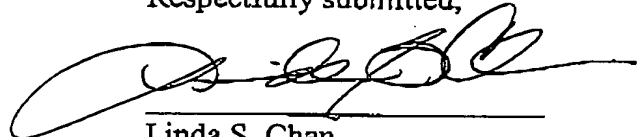
Applicant hereby submits that the entire delay in filing the complete continuation application from the due date for entering the National Stage until the filing of a grantable petition pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.137(b) was unintentional.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.137(b)(1), enclosed herewith is a complete continuation application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the fee required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.137(b)(2) and as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(m) to Deposit Account No. 50-1290. It is believed that no other fees are due with this petition. However, if any other fees are due with this paper or the enclosed amendment, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such fee(s) to Deposit Account No. 50-1290. The Commissioner is also authorized to charge any fees due with the enclosed continuation application to Deposit Account No. 50-1290.

Please direct any inquiries regarding this petition to the Applicant's undersigned attorney, who may be reached directly by telephone at (212)940-8712.

Respectfully submitted,



Linda S. Chan
Reg. No. 42,400

Attorney Docket No.: 3167/MEINKE (053735-87566)
Customer Number: 026304
Phone: (212)940-8800
Fax: (212)940-8776

Attorney Docket No.: 3167 MEINKE (053735-87566)

PTO/SB/13/PCT (06-04)

Approved for use through 07/31/2008. OMB 0651-0032

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

REQUEST FOR FILING A CONTINUATION OR DIVISION OF AN INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION

DOCKET NUMBER	ANTICIPATION CLASSIFICATION OF THIS APPLICATION		PRIOR APPLICATION EXAMINER	ART UNIT
3167/MEINKE (053735-87566)	CLASS	SUBCLASS		

Address to:

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Express Mail Label No.: EV 332246025 US

This is a request for filing a ☒ continuation ☐ divisional application under 37 CFR 1.53(b) of pending prior international application Number PCT PCT/EP99/08001, filed on Oct. 27, 1999 entitled Apparatus for the Provision of a Block Flange of a Manhole Aperture of the Like, in Particular for Fluidized Bed Reactors which designated the United States.

CLAIMS	(1) FOR	(2) NUMBER FILED	(3) NUMBER EXTRA	(4) RATE	(5) CALCULATIONS
TOTAL CLAIMS (37 CFR 1.16(c))		3 - 20 =		x \$ =	\$ 0
INDEPENDENT CLAIMS (37 CFR 1.16(b))		1 - 3 =		x \$ =	0
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIMS (if applicable) (37 CFR 1.16(d))				x \$ =	
				BASIC FEE (37 CFR 1.16(a))	790.00
				Total of above Calculations =	790.00
				Reduction by 50% for filing small entity (Note 37 CFR 1.27)	
				Total =	790.00

- ☒ Enclosed are the specification, claims and drawing(s). 7 Pages of Specification, 2 Pages of Drawings - Figures 1-3
- ☐ Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27.
- ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17, or credit any overpayment of Deposit Account No. 50-1290. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.
- ☐ A check in the amount of \$ _____ is enclosed.
- ☐ Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.
- ☐ Application Data Sheet is enclosed. See 37 CFR 1.76.
- ☒ If a CONTINUING APPLICATION, check appropriate box, and supply the requisite information below and in the first sentence of the specification following the title, or in an Application Data Sheet under 37 CFR 1.76:
☒ Continuation ☐ Divisional of prior PCT application No.: PCT/EP99/08001, filed 10/27/1999

[Page 1 of 2]

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.53(b). The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 30 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

PTO/SB/13/PCT (06-04)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0032

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.


REQUEST FOR FILING A CONTINUING APPLICATION OF AN INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION

7. ☒ A declaration under CFR 1.63 is enclosed.
8. ☒ Priority of foreign application number 198 51 423.9, filed on Nov. 7, 1998
in Germany is claimed under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d).
- ☐ The certified copy is enclosed.
9. ☒ A preliminary amendment is enclosed.
10. ☐ Also enclosed: _____

Address all future correspondence to: (May only be completed by applicant, or attorney or agent of record).

Customer Number: 026304

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.


Signature10/27/2004

Date

Linda S. Chan

Typed or printed name

42,400

Registration Number, if applicable

(212)940-8800

Telephone Number

- ☐ Inventor(s)/Applicant(s)
- ☐ Assignee of the entire interest. See 37 CFR 3.71. Statement under 37 CFR 3.73(b) is enclosed. (Form PTO/SB/96).
- ☐ Attorney or agent of record
- ☒ Filed under 37 CFR 1.34
Registration number if acting under 37 CFR 1.34 42,400

NOTE: Signatures of all the inventors or assignees of record of the entire interest or their representative(s) are required. Submit multiple forms if more than one signature is required, see below.

- ☒ *Total of 1 forms are submitted.

"Apparatus for the provision of a block flange of a manhole aperture or the like, in particular for fluidized bed reactors"

The invention relates to an apparatus for the provision of a block flange of a manhole aperture or the like, in particular for fluidized bed reactors for the oxychlorination of ethylene, oxygen and HCl, having a wall flange fixed in the reactor wall.

In what is known as oxychlorination, ethylene, oxygen and HCl are reacted in a fluidized bed reactor (oxyreactor) over a copper-containing catalyst to give 1,2-dichloroethane and water. In operation, and when the plant is shut down, catalyst deposits may occur in any dead spaces within the reactor. The presence of HCl results in the formation of hydrochloric acid when the temperature falls below the dew point, and hence causes severe corrosion. Particularly at risk here are dead spaces in the shell region, such as any manholes and measuring ports. Attempts have been made to remedy this disadvantage by, for example, providing heated flushing lines at all measuring ports, in order also to

- 2 -

prevent adverse effects on measurements and temperatures falling below the dew point.

With manhole designs, it is known to equip the lids of said manholes internally with an additional displacement body which is so designed as to produce the smoothest possible flush transition to the inner surface of the reactor shell.

It is an object of the invention to provide a solution whereby all other auxiliary measures can be dispensed with and the expense associated therewith can be eliminated without the functionality of the system suffering as a result and without undesirable deposits being formed in these areas.

This object is achieved, according to the invention, with an apparatus of the type described initially in that the flange surface pointing inward and downward in the direction of gravity is of beveled design, at least in some areas.

The invention entails a number of advantages, for example in that possible dead spaces in which catalyst deposits may be formed are reduced and all heated flushing lines that are employed in the conventional solutions, with filter

stations, flowmeters, condensate collectors, mountings and the like, are eliminated.

In an embodiment, it is envisaged that the surface bevel is so great, at least in its area that is lowest in the direction of gravity, that deposition of catalyst granules or the like is prevented.

It is particularly advantageous if, as the invention likewise envisages, the bevel of the surface is designed to increase, beginning from the horizontal median plane in the inner edge region toward the vertical center of the flange ring.

With this design, a smooth, homogeneous, funnel-like slide is formed, directed toward the interior of the reactor, so that, for example, when the reactor is switched off and the fluidized bed sinks, the deposition of catalyst material or the like is reliably prevented.

Further features, details and advantages of the invention are apparent from the description that follows and from reference to the drawing, in which:

- 4 -

Fig. 1 shows a simplified perspective view of a block flange according to the invention,

Fig. 2 shows a simplified sectional view of a manhole, and

Fig. 3 shows a simplified sectional view of a block flange approximately in accordance with Fig. 1.

Referring to Fig. 1, a block flange generally designated 1 according to the invention is welded into a reactor wall 2. The block flange has a certain cylindrical extent and has a passage aperture 3, for example for a measuring instrument, a probe or the like.

In its inward-pointing area, designated 2a in Fig. 2, the flange inner surface 4 is beveled, the bevel being designated 5 in Fig. 1. This beveled surface 5 begins approximately at the center horizontal line 6 of the flange 1, extends as far as the horizontal center, designated 7, of the flange and from there onward to the vertical center 6, so that a form of slide results. Material falling thereon is automatically rejected as a result of gravity.

- 5 -

Fig. 2 shows a manhole design, and here again a corresponding flange design is shown, the manhole being closed by a cover designated in this case 8.

Fig. 3 shows a block flange 1 of this type in section.

The examples of embodiment of the invention described can of course be modified in a great many respects without departing from the basic concept. Thus, the flange 1 or 1a can, in particular, be welded in flush with the inner wall surface of the reactor wall 2, the flange or flange bore 3 can be arranged at a slightly downward-pointing angle to assist the sliding-off of material falling thereon, and so on.

Patent claims:

1. An apparatus for the provision of a block flange of a manhole aperture or the like, in particular for fluidized bed reactors for the oxychlorination of ethylene, oxygen and HCl, having a wall flange fixed in the reactor wall, wherein the flange surface (5) pointing inward and downward in the direction of gravity is of beveled design, at least in some areas.
2. The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the bevel of the surface (5) is so great, at least in its area that is lowest in the direction of gravity, that deposition of catalyst granules or the like is prevented.
3. The apparatus as claimed in claim 1 or 2, wherein the bevel of the surface (5) is designed to increase, beginning from the horizontal median plane (6) in the inner edge region toward the vertical center (7) of the flange ring.

Abstract:

An apparatus for the provision of a block flange of a manhole aperture or the like, in particular for fluidized bed reactors for the oxychlorination of ethylene, oxygen and HCl, having a wall flange fixed in the reactor wall, is intended to provide a solution whereby all other auxiliary measures can be dispensed with and the expense associated therewith can be eliminated without the functionality of the system suffering as a result and without undesirable deposits being formed in these areas.

This is achieved in that the flange surface (5) pointing inward and downward in the direction of gravity is of beveled design, at least in some areas.

Drawing for publication herewith: Fig. 1.

- 1 / 2 -

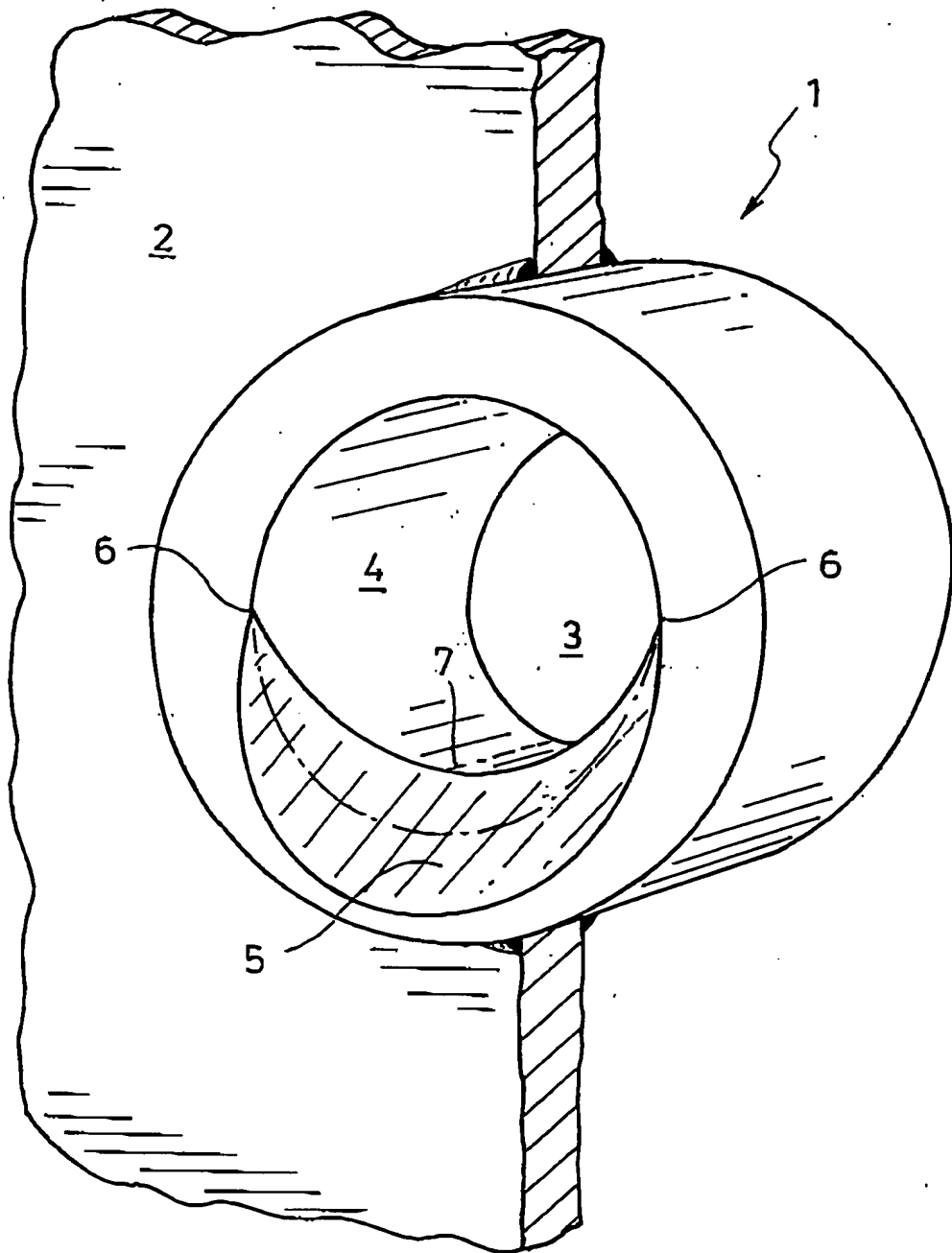


FIG.1

- 2 / 2 -

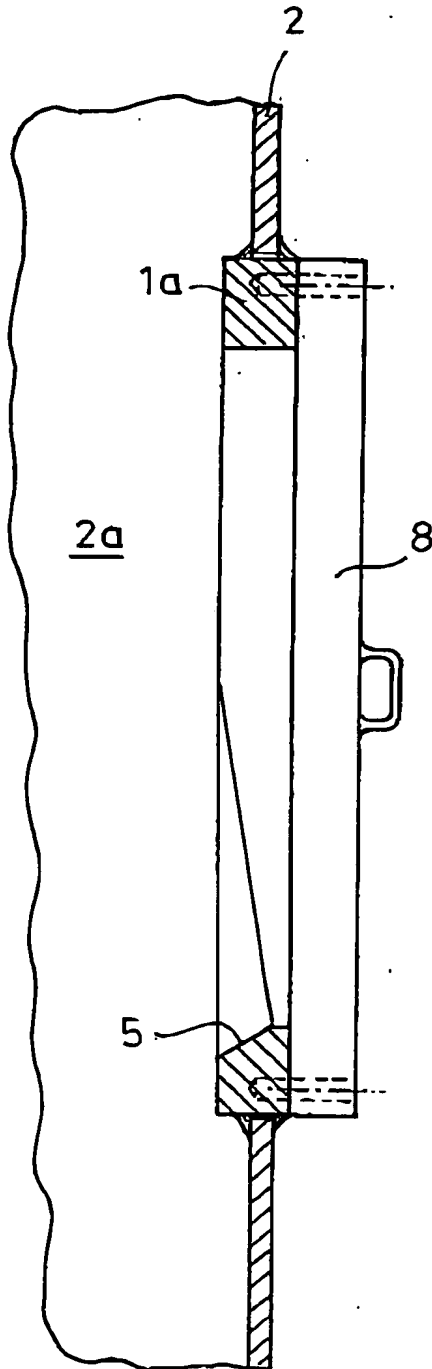


FIG. 2

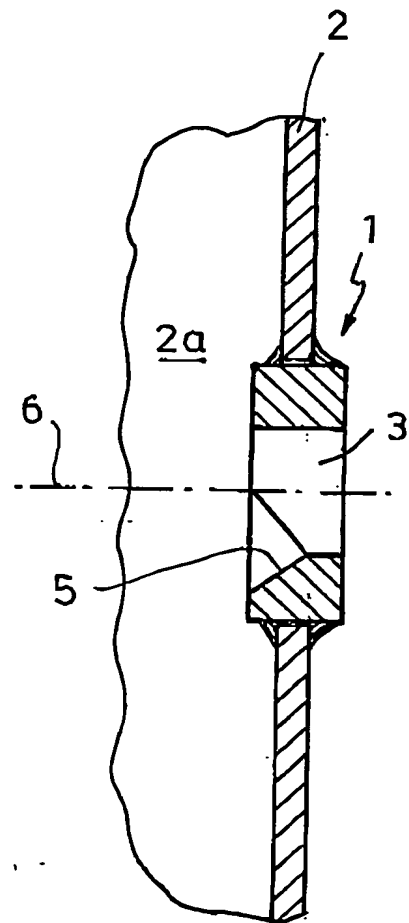


FIG. 3

Rosenman & Collin LLP Docket No.: 3167/McInke
Client/Associate Docket No.: 2571A/16242

Declaration and Power of Attorney for Patent Application
Erklärung Für Patentanmeldungen Mit Vollmacht
German Language Declaration

Als nachstehend benannter Erfinder erkläre ich hiermit an Eides Statt:

dass mein Wohnsitz, meine Postanschrift, und meine Staatsangehörigkeit den im Nachstehenden nach meinem Namen aufgeführten Angaben entsprechen,

dass ich, nach bestem Wissen der ursprüngliche, erste und alleinige Erfinder (falls nachstehend nur ein Name angegeben ist) oder ein ursprünglicher, erster und Mitfinder (falls nachstehend mehrere Namen aufgeführt sind) des Gegenstandes bin, für den dieser Antrag gestellt wird und für den ein Patent beantragt wird für die Erfindung mit dem Titel:

deren Beschreibung
(zutreffendes ankreuzen)

☐ hier beigefügt ist.

☐ am _____ unter der
Anmeldungsreihennummer _____
eingereicht wurde und am _____
abgeändert wurde (falls tatsächlich abgeändert).

Ich bestätige hiermit, dass ich den Inhalt der obigen Patentanmeldung einschliesslich der Ansprüche durchgesehen und verstanden habe, die eventuell durch einen Zusatzantrag wie oben erwähnt abgeändert wurde.

Ich erkenne meine Pflicht zur Offenbarung irgendwelcher Informationen, die für die Prüfung der vorliegenden Anmeldung in Einklang mit Absatz 37, Bundesgesetzbuch, Paragraph 1.56(a) von Wichtigkeit sind, an.

Ich beanspruche hiermit ausländische Prioritätsvorteile gemäss Abschnitt 35 der Zivilprozessordnung der Vereinigten Staaten, Paragraph 119 aller unten angegebenen Auslandsanmeldungen für ein Patent oder eine Erfindersurkunde, und habe auch alle Auslandsanmeldungen für ein Patent oder eine Erfindersurkunde nachstehend gekennzeichnet, die ein Anmeldedatum haben, das vor dem Anmeldedatum der Anmeldung liegt, für die Priorität beansprucht wird.

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

APPARATUS FOR THE PROVISION OF A BLOCK
FLANGE OF A MANHOLE APERTURE OR THE LIKE, IN
PARTICULAR FOR FLUIDIZED BED REACTORS

the specification of which
(check one)

☒ is attached hereto.

☐ was filed on _____
Application Serial No. _____
and was amended on _____

(if applicable)

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, 1.56(a).

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, 119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

47109579.01

Received Apr-20-2001 09:35am

From-49 231 147870

To-CENTER 4

Page 002

German Language Declaration

Prior foreign applications
Priorität beansprucht

Priority Claimed

<u>PCT/EP99/08001</u> (Number) (Nummer)	<u>PCT/EP</u> (Country) (Land)	<u>27/10/99</u> (Day/Month/Year Filed) (Tag/Monat/Jahr eingereicht)	[<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>] Yes Ja	[<input type="checkbox"/>] No Nein
<u>198 S1 423.9</u> (Number) (Nummer)	<u>Germany</u> (Country) (Land)	<u>07/11/98</u> (Day/Month/Year Filed) (Tag/Monat/Jahr eingereicht)	[<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>] Yes Ja	[<input type="checkbox"/>] No Nein
<u> </u> (Number) (Nummer)	<u> </u> (Country) (Land)	<u> </u> (Day/Month/Year Filed) (Tag/Monat/Jahr eingereicht)	[<input type="checkbox"/>] Yes Ja	[<input type="checkbox"/>] No Nein

ich beanspruche hiermit gemäss Absatz 35 der Zivilprozessordnung der Vereinigten Staaten, Paragraph 120, den Vorzug aller unten aufgeführten Anmeldungen und falls der Gegenstand aus jedem Anspruch dieser Anmeldung nicht in einer früheren amerikanischen Patentanmeldung laut dem ersten Paragraphen des Absatzes 35 der Zivilprozessordnung der Vereinigten Staaten, Paragraph 112 offenbart ist, erkenne ich gemäss Absatz 37, Bundesgesetzbuch, Paragraph 1.56(a) meine Pflicht zur Offenbarung von Informationen an, die zwischen dem Anmeldedatum der früheren Anmeldung und dem nationalen oder PCT internationalen Anmeldedatum dieser Anmeldung bekannt geworden sind.

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, 120 of any United States application(s) below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, 1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.

(Application Serial No.)
(Anmeldeseriennummer)

(Filing Date)
(Anmeldedatum)

(Status)
(patentiert, anhängig,
aufgegeben)

(Status)
(patented, pending,
abandoned)

(Application Serial No.)
(Anmeldeseriennummer)

(Filing Date)
(Anmeldedatum)

(Status)
(patentiert, anhängig,
aufgegeben)

(Status)
(patented, pending,
abandoned)

Ich erkläre hiermit, dass alle von mir in der vorliegenden Erklärung gemachten Angaben nach meinem besten Wissen und Gewissen der vollen Wahrheit entsprechen, und dass ich diese eidesstattliche Erklärung in Kenntnis dessen abgibt, dass wissentlich und vorsätzlich falsche Angaben gemäss Paragraph 1001, Absatz 18 der Zivilprozessordnung der Vereinigten Staaten von Amerika mit Geldstrafe belegt und/oder Gefängnis bestraft werden können, und dass derartig wissentlich und vorsätzlich falsche Angaben die Gültigkeit der vorliegenden Patentanmeldung oder eines darauf erteilten Patentes gefährden können.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statement and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

German Language Declaration

VERTRETUNGSVOLLMACHT: Als benannter Erfinder beauftrage ich mit den nachstehend benannten Patentanwalt (oder die nachstehend benannten Patentanwälte) und/oder Patent-Agenten mit der Verfolgung der vorliegenden Patentanmeldung sowie mit der Abwicklung aller damit verbundenen Geschäfte vor dem Patent- und Warenzeichenamt:

POWER OF ATTORNEY: As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or agent(s) to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith:

Shahan Islam, Reg. No. 32,507

Telefongespräche bitte richten an:

Direct Telephone Calls to:

Shahan Islam

(212) 940-8546

Postanschrift:

Send Correspondence to:

ROSENMAN & COLIN LLP

575 Madison Avenue

New York, New York 10022-2585

sislam@rosenman.com

Unterschrift des Erfinders

Datum

Inventor's Signature

Date

Hartmut Schön

April 24, 2001

Voller Name des einzigen oder ursprünglichen Erfinders:

Full name of first or sole inventor

Hartmut Schön

Wohnsitz Brüder-Grimm-Str. 2a

~~Altenhofweg 12~~

61440 61449 Oberursel

Germany

Staatsangehörigkeit

Germany/Deutschland

Postanschrift

Residence

Citizenship

Post Office Address

Unterschrift des Erfinders

Datum

Inventor's Signature

Date

Voller Name des zweiten Mitfinders:

Full name of second joint inventor

Wohnsitz

Residence

Staatsangehörigkeit

Citizenship

Postanschrift

Post Office Address

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor : Hartmut Schön
Title : Apparatus for the Provision of a Block Flange of a Manhole
Aperture of the Like, in Particular for Fluidized Bed Reactors

CONTINUATION OF INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION

Serial No. : PCT/EP99/08001
Filed : October 27, 1999

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 pursuant to 37 CFR 1.10 on the date shown below as

Express Mail Receipt No. EV 332246025 US

Name: Rajisa Subhaw

Signature: *R. Subhaw*

Date: October 27, 2004

October 27, 2004

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Preliminary Amendment

To the Commissioner for Patents:

Prior to examination please amend the application as follows:

In the Specification

At page 1, paragraph 1, add the following before line 1:

This application is the National Stage of International Application No. PCT/EP99/08001, filed October 27, 1999, which claims priority to German application number 198 51 423.9 filed on November 7, 1998, and which is herein incorporated by reference.

In the Claims

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (original) An apparatus for the provision of a block flange of a manhole aperture or the like, in particular for fluidized bed reactors for the oxychlorination of ethylene, oxygen and HCl, having a wall flange fixed in the reactor wall, wherein the flange surface (5) pointing inward and downward in the direction of gravity is of beveled design, at least in some areas.
2. (original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the bevel of the surface (5) is so great, at least in its area that is lowest in the direction of gravity, that deposition of catalyst granules or the like is prevented.
3. (currently amended) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1 [[or 2]], wherein the bevel of the surface (5) is designed to increase, beginning from the horizontal median plane (6) in the inner edge region toward the vertical center (7) of the flange ring.

REMARKS

The current preliminary amendment is submitted in order to claim the benefit of the prior application.

Any fee due with this paper, not fully covered by an enclosed check, may be charged on Deposit Account 50-1290.

Respectfully submitted,



Linda S. Chan
Reg. No. 42,400

Attorney Docket No.: 3167/MEINKE (053735-87566)
Customer Number: 026304
Phone: (212)940-8800
Fax: (212)940-8776